



# Centennial Connection



Autumn 2008 • Published by the City of Centennial

## CENTENNIAL CIVIC CENTER OPEN FOR BUSINESS!



**IKEA is coming to Centennial!**

This 400,000 square foot store will be built on 13.5 acres along the western side of I-25 between Dry Creek Rd. and County Line Rd.

IKEA Centennial will feature 10,000 exclusively designed items, 50 inspirational room-settings, three model home interiors, a supervised children's play area and a 350-seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties.

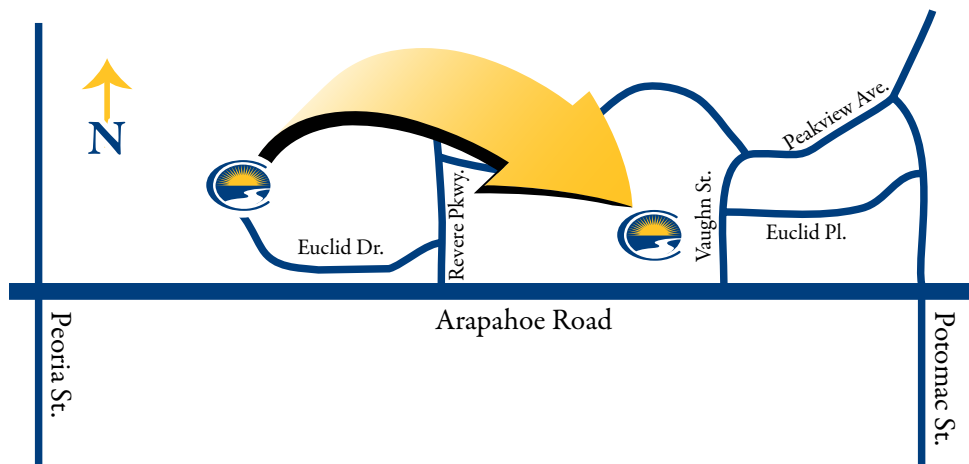
Other family-friendly features include a 'Children's IKEA' area in the showroom, baby-care rooms, preferred parking and play areas throughout the store.

A store opening date has not been determined.

IKEA is the world's leading home furnishings retailer and we're proud to welcome them to Centennial!



The City of Centennial government offices are relocating to the new Centennial Civic Center building on November 24, 2008. The new building is located at 13133 East Arapahoe Rd. in Centennial, just a few blocks east of our old building. Stop by; we'd love to show you around! For more information, please call 303-325-8000.



## Kick off the holiday season with Orchestra concert



The City of Centennial is a proud sponsor of the South Suburban Community Orchestra's holiday concert on December 12. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church located at 251 E. Sterne Blvd. in Centennial (east of Broadway on Arapahoe Rd.)

## Winter is on its way; be prepared!

Though we've enjoyed weeks of temperate weather, it's only a matter of time before winter weather takes hold and we're in the middle of snow and ice season. When that occurs, you can be confident that it is the City's objective to provide the public with adequate mobility during snow storms.

The City of Centennial Public Works Department is responsible for plowing snow on City streets this winter.

The City has also updated the Snow and Ice Control Plan. The Plan is available on our website at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com), and includes priority snow plowing routes, tips for winter safety, contact information, emergency operations information and more.

When plowing streets, the City does its best to prevent snow from being plowed onto sidewalks. However, there are times when this is unavoidable. Finding a place to put the snow can be challenging. Please bear with us when this happens.

We all can help with travel during inclement weather. The City encourages businesses to develop emergency plans so they can assist

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## CITY OF CENTENNIAL BEGINS DIRECT COLLECTION OF SALES TAX

Last June, Centennial became a Home Rule city. An integral part of the change from a "Statutory" city to a "Home Rule" city is how sales taxes are collected and dispersed.

As a Home Rule city, Centennial can collect its own sales tax as well as administer the collection and reporting. By being Home Rule, the City is now able to check whether those sales taxes, which you have already paid, are being sent to Centennial, or somewhere else.

Effective January 1, 2009, the City of Centennial will become entirely self-collect. Self-collection enables the City to manage its most important revenue more carefully and more expediently.



*continued on page six*

## SALES TAX COLLECTION WORKSHOPS

*Self collection begins January 1, 2009*

The City of Centennial has scheduled workshops for businesses to help with the transition to self-collection. Each of the workshops will be in the City of Centennial City Council Chambers at the Civic Center, located at 13133 East Arapahoe Rd. in Centennial. For more information, or to RSVP, please call 303-754-3440, or email [dkohl@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:dkohl@centennialcolorado.com).

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
Tuesday	November 25, 2008	6 - 8 p.m.
Tuesday	December 23, 2008	9 - 11 a.m.
Saturday	January 10, 2009	9 - 11 a.m.
Thursday	January 22, 2009	2 - 4 p.m.
Tuesday	February 10, 2009	6 - 8 p.m.
Tuesday	February 24, 2009	9 - 11 a.m.
Saturday	March 7, 2009	9 - 11 a.m.
Thursday	March 26, 2009	2 - 4 p.m.
Tuesday	April 7, 2009	6 - 8 p.m.
Thursday	April 23, 2009	2 - 4 p.m.
Saturday	May 9, 2009	9 - 11 a.m.
Wednesday	May 27, 2009	9 - 11 a.m.
Tuesday	June 9, 2009	6 - 8 p.m.
Saturday	June 27, 2009	9 - 11 a.m.

## Need to reach us?

The City of Centennial's main telephone number is **303-325-8000**. You may also submit comments online by visiting our Web site at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com) and clicking the Citizen Response button. A member of the City staff will get back to you within 24 hours.



## THE STREETS AT SOUTHGLENN

The City of Centennial celebrated the opening of Staples at The Streets at SouthGlenn on September 30 with a ribbon “shredding” ceremony. Staples is located on the west side of the site with Best Buy, Dick’s Sporting Goods, and Macy’s Furniture Gallery.

Even with the grand openings, construction continues. In September, the last remaining part of the Southglenn Mall was demolished which was the entrance to the old Macy’s Furniture Gallery. The Streets at SouthGlenn is scheduled to open in summer 2009.

For more information about the project visit [www.shopsouthglenn.com](http://www.shopsouthglenn.com).



Council Member Rick Dindinger, Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca McClellan, City Manager Jacque Wedding-Scott, Council Member Keith Gardner, City Clerk Linda Gawlik, Staples General Manager Jeff Grilli and South Metro Chamber President John Brackney celebrate the opening of Staples at the Streets at SouthGlenn September 30.

## Improvements begin on Arapahoe Rd. from University to Holly

### Project One

Arapahoe Rd. is about to get a face lift. Construction at the Arapahoe Rd. and University Blvd. intersection is already underway. The intersection will be completely reconstructed by:

- replacing the asphalt with concrete
- widening the intersection with new turn lanes
- improving drainage by installing new storm sewer pipes and inlets
- replacing the traffic signal

The project limits are:

- University Blvd. from the Big Dry Creek Bridge at the north end to Easter Ave. on the south end.
- Arapahoe Rd. from Race St. at the west end to Big Dry Creek at the east end.

Most of the work will be during the day. Lane closures during the day will be from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. When night work occurs, lane closures will be in place from 6 p.m. until 6 a.m.

This project is scheduled to be complete by August 2009. For more information on this project, email [daniellel@jalisco.org](mailto:daniellel@jalisco.org) or call the project hotline at 720-377-3924 ext. 802.

### Project Two

Additional work on Arapahoe Rd. is also underway just a few blocks to the east. The reconstruction of Arapahoe Rd. between Colorado Blvd. and Holly St. will continue through Summer 2009.

When complete, the project will provide:

- upgraded pedestrian facilities, including continuous sidewalks with ramps
- a new entrance to Newton Middle School across from Albion Way, including a traffic signal at this location
- drainage improvements
- a new concrete roadway surface

At least one lane of Arapahoe Rd. will be open in each direction throughout the reconstruction project although alternate routes are advised. All business access to Arapahoe Rd. will remain open during this project.

For more information on this project, call 720-475-7122 or E-mail [ArapahoeRoad@pbsj.com](mailto:ArapahoeRoad@pbsj.com).

## AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

More than 200 business leaders attended the City of Centennial's *Best of Centennial* business recognition dinner October 15, 2008.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Robert Lang, Director of the Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech University. The following awards were presented:

### Company of the Year:

was awarded to two well-known Centennial businesses, the United Launch Alliance and AlloSource

### The Mayor's Award of Excellence: Project C.U.R.E.

**Award for Environmental Stewardship:** Plastics Design and Manufacturing (presented by the Centennial Youth Commission)

**Retail Project of the Year:** The project team for the Ethan Allen Store

**Office Project of the Year:** Alton Way Office Village

**Flavor of the Year:** Tony's Market, a Centennial business since 1978

**Entrepreneur of the Year:** Matt Nelsen of Drop Shots Tennis

# CITY'S GENERAL FUND BUDGET APPROVED

In early November, the Mayor and City Council approved a 2009 City budget that is conservative but stable, recognizing national and state economic trends. City Manager Jacque Wedding-Scott looked at housing projections, the consumer price index for urban communities, employment rates and national and state financial forecasts in formulating the budget. She cited a diversified business community and labor force indicators that show a large percentage of employees coming into Centennial as keys to the City's financial stability. The total General Fund approved budget is \$46.4 million.

Two of the largest budget items for 2009 are public safety and public works, both operating under contracts that provide fixed costs for most of the services.

## Public Safety

The contract with the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office for 2009 is \$20 million, about 3 percent higher than 2008. Services provided include patrol, traffic safety, criminal investigations, emergency management, community resources, SWAT, bomb squad, school resource programs and records management. The Sheriff's Office has been a nationally accredited law enforcement agency since 1988. The City's contract with the Sheriff's Office is for a ten-year period.

## Public Works

2009 will be the first full year of operating under a contract with CH2M Hill OMI. The full Public Works budget, including the contract with CH2M Hill OMI, is \$8.767 million. In addition, the capital improvements budget is \$6.1 million for projects that will last more than 5 years. In the 2009 budget, the City Council approved \$170,000 for the City's transportation master plan. CH2M Hill OMI began its contract with Centennial on July 1, 2008, and was the largest conversion from a public agency to a private

contractor in the nation. Other highlights of the budget include:

## Sales Tax Self-Collection

A new item added to the 2009 budget was \$300,000 to begin a program to self-collect the City's sales taxes. This program was enabled by the approval of Centennial's Home Rule Charter. Beginning January 1, 2009 the City will process sales tax returns, collect and deposit sales tax funds, produce daily and monthly reports, and perform audits of City retailers. These responsibilities are expected to be contracted. It is assumed that these costs will be recovered through enhanced revenue collections.

## Open Space and Conservation Trust Funds

A total of \$3.6 million was approved for projects from the Open Space and Conservation Trust Funds (CTF). Centennial receives funding from the .25 percent Arapahoe County Open Space Tax and from lottery proceeds (CTF) each year. Among the projects proposed:

### Piney Creek Trail

Complete the trail. It extends from Cherry Creek Park east to a future connection with the E-470 Regional Trail

### City-wide Trail Signage

Upgrade trail signage city-wide

### Civic Center Open Space Improvements

Prepare a master plan for the City's land around the new City Civic Center and begin the first phase of a two-year improvement project

### Centennial Link Trail

First phase of construction for a multi-use trail linking western Centennial neighborhoods to the regional trail network

### Cherry Creek Trail

Construction of a temporary trail from Broncos Pkwy. to Otero St.

### Caley Avenue Bike Lane

Addition of bike lanes and signage along Caley Ave. from South Holly St. to South Abilene St.

### West Tollgate Creek to Piney Creek

On-street bike lane and signage along Jericho Street to link the West Toll Gate Creek Trail to the Piney Creek Trail

### Piney Creek Hollow Park

Sports field upgrades in cooperation with the Arapahoe Park and Recreation District

### Recreation Projects

Adding a spray park amenity to the Franklin Pool facility and making improvements at the Goodson Recreation Center

To read more about the 2009 Centennial City budget, visit the City's Web site at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com).

## Sharing the Plans

The City of Centennial observed National Community Planning Month in October as part of the American Planning Association's efforts to raise awareness about the importance of planning and development within communities across the country.

Throughout the month of October the City of Centennial's Planning and Development Department participated in many events to educate the public about the latest "developments" within the City including a Mayor's proclamation, displays in libraries and at public events, and open house events at the Streets at SouthGlenn and the City offices.

If you have questions about a specific project in the City call 303-325-8000 and ask for Planning and Development.





## KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFE

Streets and sidewalks are for everyone's use. It's the responsibility of the property owner to make sure nothing on their property is obstructing sight lines for pedestrians or motorists on the sidewalks or streets in Centennial.

A few things to look for to ensure the safety of your neighbors and vehicles traveling through your neighborhood are:

- Pay attention to how your trees, shrubs and bushes are growing. Vegetation over sidewalks and streets must be properly maintained to allow pedestrians to walk on sidewalks and allow vehicles to travel on the street without interference.
- Overgrown vegetation, basketball hoops, cars that infringe on sidewalks, or other obstructions impeding the safe flow of traffic, may block the view of traffic signs and may force pedestrians to walk in the street.
- Traffic control devices, including not only traffic signals but signage as well, must be completely and continuously visible to motorists at all times.
- There needs to be good visibility at corners and intersections even if no traffic signs or signals exist. If the City is notified that there might be a visibility problem at a corner, residents will be instructed to keep nearby vegetation trimmed or remove the obstruction.



*Overgrown shrubs, trees, even basketball hoops are a danger to pedestrians when they impede foot traffic on sidewalks.*

Forcing pedestrians to walk in the street can be very dangerous and in some cases impossible. Please be respectful of those who need the sidewalks the most— children, seniors, visually impaired citizens and those with disabilities.

To report a Right-of-Way obstruction, call 303-325-8000 or visit our Web site at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com) and click on the Citizen Response button.

# Promoting a Green City

"Environmental Sustainability" was one of four core community values that emerged from the recent Centennial 2030 citizen-led visioning process. To support this value, City Council recently approved a strategic plan to implement new programs or policies that facilitate environmental stewardship.

To date, the City of Centennial has taken several actions that promote environmental sustainability:

- *Working with partners on open space projects and acquiring 11 acres of open space around the new Centennial Civic Center.*
- *Improved street sweeping schedule to better protect air and water quality.*
- *To reduce paper use and avoid unnecessary travel, the City offers on-line payment for certain fees and provides convenient, electronic access to numerous documents and information resources on the City's Web site.*
- *Code Enforcement recycles signs that are removed due to Right-of-Way violations.*

These are just some of the simple, practical steps that the City has taken to promote environmental stewardship.

For more information, visit the City's Web site under the Living Section for "Clean and Green" ideas.

## CITY HONORED FOR BEST PRACTICES; FEATURED ON NATIONAL STAGE

The City of Centennial received a great opportunity this summer from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). ICMA worked with the City to produce a video highlighting the City's "best practices."

The video featured outsourcing Public Works services and bringing Planning and Development services in-house and was shown at the ICMA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Richmond, Virginia.

"This was such an exciting opportunity to showcase the City of Centennial and the great things happening in our City," says Jacque Wedding-Scott, City Manager.

To view the video, visit [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com)

## SALES TAX, CONT'D

Being closer to our City's businesses enables the City to ensure that the collection of the sales tax is done properly and the remittances to the City are accurate and timely.

Sales tax is important revenue for the City, representing approximately 36 percent of the total revenues received by the City. The sales tax rate is 2.5 percent and is paid by the purchaser of taxable items, collected by the retailer, and remitted to the City.

### What this means to consumers

Essentially, not much. The prices you pay will not change; our sales tax rate will not increase. Quite simply, the sales tax you pay on purchased items no longer takes a detour through state government; it reaches the City of Centennial directly.

### What this means to businesses

Every Centennial business will now be required to obtain a City of Centennial sales tax license and to report, through a separate sales tax return, the City of Centennial sales tax collected from its customers.

If you are a business owner in the City of Centennial and have not received information about these changes, or have questions about sales tax collection, please call 303-325-8000.

## LICENSE YOUR PETS TO KEEP THEM SAFE



Please make sure your pets have identification tags, proof of rabies vaccination, an imbedded microchip, and are wearing a City of Centennial Animal License. An animal license is required by City Code. An animal license application can be obtained on our Web site at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com).

Contact Animal Services when domestic animal related issues need resolution. Centennial Animal Services staff is available seven days a week 365 days a year via telephone 303-325-8070 or email: [cas@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:cas@centennialcolorado.com).

## WINTER, CONT'D

in providing safe travel for their employees and others already on the road. As an example, staggering the times employees arrive and leave will help to alleviate at least some of traffic on the roads.

If you would like to receive information about a snow emergency, visit our Web site at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com), and click E-NEWS SIGN UP, then click the box for Emergency Snow Conditions. You will receive the latest information as the site is updated related to a snow emergency within or near Centennial.

Please be a good neighbor and help those that need assistance.

To contact the City of Centennial call 303-325-8000. For emergencies call 911.





## CITY OF CENTENNIAL OFFICES

**Main Telephone Number for all City Information**  
**24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**303-325-8000**

### City of Centennial Offices

13133 E. Arapahoe Road  
Centennial, CO 80112

**Phone: 303-325-8000**

**Office Hours:** (excluding holidays)

M-F 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**E-mail:** [info@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:info@centennialcolorado.com)

[www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com)

**Centennial Connection** is published by the City of Centennial. It is also available in PDF format on the City Web site.

**Comments and questions:**

Allison Wittern, 303-754-3443

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#### Animal Control

303-325-8070

#### Building Permits General Information

Jill Hudoletnjak

303-754-3321

[jill.hudoletnjak@safebuilt.com](mailto:jill.hudoletnjak@safebuilt.com)

#### Business Licenses

Debra Kohl

303-754-3440

[dkohl@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:dkohl@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Citizen Concerns

303-325-8000

#### Code Enforcement

Susie Ellis

303-754-3400

[codematters@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:codematters@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Community Planning & Development General Info.

303-325-8000

#### Inspections Hotline

303-708-1430

#### Municipal Court

303-754-3380

[courtinfo@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:courtinfo@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Public Works Service Requests

303-325-8000 or online at  
[centennialcolorado.com](http://centennialcolorado.com),  
click *Citizen Response* button

#### Sales Tax Collections

Debra Kohl

303-754-3440

[dkohl@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:dkohl@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Sheriff (Emergency ONLY)

911

#### Sheriff (Non-emergency) Report Crime or Graffiti

303-795-4711

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### Randy Pye, Mayor

303-754-3350

[rpye@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:rpye@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Betty Ann Habig, Council, District I

303-754-3354

[bhabig@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:bhabig@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Rick Dindinger, Council, District I

303-754-3352

[rdindinger@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:rdindinger@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Keith Gardner, Council, District II

303-754-3359

[kgardner@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:kgardner@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Sue Bosier, Council, District II

303-754-3404

[sbosier@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:sbosier@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Patrick Anderson, Council, District III

303-754-3360

[panderson@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:panderson@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Rebecca McClellan, Council, District III & Mayor Pro Tem

303-754-3405

[rmcclellan@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:rmcclellan@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Todd Miller, Council, Ward IV

303-754-3361

[tmiller@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:tmiller@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Ron Weidmann, Council, District IV

303-754-3343

[rweidmann@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:rweidmann@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Susan Bockenfeld, Treasurer

303-754-3353

[sbockenfeld@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:sbockenfeld@centennialcolorado.com)

#### Linda Gawlik, City Clerk

303-754-3406

[lgawlik@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:lgawlik@centennialcolorado.com)



## In this issue...

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# ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SLURRY SEAL

Slurry seal is one of the oldest and most successful methods of road resurfacing and is commonly used in areas with longer life cycles. The most common type of slurry consists of mixing asphalt emulsion, aggregate and water. The water is used to spread the mixture on a surface or pavement. This procedure is used for restoring skid resistance, protecting a surface from aging, eliminating dust and sealing gravel pavements.

Slurry seal is commonly applied to streets that are not in great need of a full reconstruction. A slurry seal typically extends the life of the pavement by about five years.

The difference between asphalt and slurry seal is cost. Slurry seal is less expensive than asphalt.

When slurry seal is placed, the street must be closed for a period of three hours to let the emulsion set so the aggregate bonds better.

This year Centennial has implemented both asphalt overlay and slurry seal placement in the 2008 Roadway Rehabilitation and Surface Treatment Program.

Here is a breakdown of the quantities and cost:

- *A total of 230 streets (52 lane miles) received slurry seal treatment, at a cost of about \$727,000*
- *A total of 70 streets (16.2 lane miles) received either an asphalt overlay (14.5 miles) or reconstruction (1.7 miles) at a cost of about \$3.5 million dollars*

The City determines which streets are the best candidates for a slurry seal and which must have an overlay or complete reconstruction, depending on the condition of the street. Placing the slurry seal delays the need for an overlay or reconstruction. In 2009, the City plans to overlay approximately 20 lane miles of streets and place a slurry seal on approximately 40 lane miles of streets.

To learn more go to:  
[http://www.slurry.com/cont\\_slurryseal.shtml](http://www.slurry.com/cont_slurryseal.shtml)